

5 March 2021

Principal's Update Friday 5 March 2021

Kia Ora our parent and caregiver community

Thank you for all your support from home for distance learning. Well done parents for yet again adjusting to life in Alert Level 3. Thank you to all staff for stepping up to online teaching and learning these past 5 days.

As the Prime Minister has announced, Auckland will move to Alert Level 2 at 6.00am Sunday 7 March. Therefore, school returns to being onsite for all students and we look forward to welcoming every student back to our campuses on Monday morning.

We will continue with your cautious approach to all school activities, to access onto our sites and towards healthy hygiene practices. We also understand if you are reluctant to return your children immediately to school. Please do what you feel is the best approach for you.

So Alert Level 2 means:

- Parents cannot come on site for this coming week – at MAC please stay in your car, at GC the teachers will be out front to meet all students.
- Please display QR code posters for the NZ COVID Tracer app
- Keep your distance from other people when out in public.
- Wear a face covering on public transport and wherever you can't maintain a physical distance of 2m from others when out in public.
- Stay at home if you are sick; don't go to work or school and don't socialise.
- If you have symptoms of a cold or flu, or aches and pains, call your doctor or Healthline and ask about getting tested.
- Reinforce the importance of good hand washing, drying and good cough/sneeze etiquette
- Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces regularly
- Switch on the Bluetooth function on the Covid tracer app, keep track of where you've been at all times.
- Encourage people with relevant symptoms to seek medical advice through Healthline (0800 358 5453) or their GP and get tested for COVID if recommended to do so
- [The Ministry of Education](#) provides us with specific advice for what needs to happen in schools and early learning services. Some of the rules are different for schools, early learning services and workplaces than the rules you need to follow when we are out and about with people you don't know. The main one is we have different physical distancing requirements than the general public. That is because we have good systems in place to prevent the spread of COVID.
- At Alert Level 2, the physical distancing requirements at schools are not breathing on and not touching each other and adults being a metre apart from each other wherever practicable. We can still go ahead with swimming activities, with some consideration to ensure that everyone is keeping a reasonable distance from each other both in and out of the pool. Anyone who is feeling unwell should be staying home and seeking advice about getting tested.

- The Ministry of Education also has [information for parents, caregivers and whānau](#).
- The [Government's Unite against COVID-19 website](#) is the main website to go to get great advice.

Events

Yes, there may need to yet again some rearrangement of planned events. This is unavoidable and we should not underestimate the work it takes to re-start, to shift or to cancel. We also still have 6 weeks of this term to go so we want teaching and learning to be measured, planned, constructive, doable, and so enjoyable. We do not want it to be frenetic, changeable, ill-conceived, and unpredictable. Hence, we as a community – school and parents set our sights now to take one day at a time, being kind and thoughtful, intentional, and reaching out to others in genuine love and grace.

Four Excellent Coming Events – these are good, essential, and doable!

- 1. Middle Years Meet the Teacher Event - Tuesday night 9th March** - this will go ahead online. Links will be sent out. The online format will be:
 - Y7 zoom – 6.00pm -6.30pm
 - Y8 zoom 6.40pm -7.10pm
 - Y9 and 10 combined 7.30-8.15pm
- 2. Digital Parenting – Surviving AND Thriving Online Event 10th March 7-8pm via Google Meet Link** <https://meet.google.com/fqq-qvbf-tio>

Formerly our annual Online Jungle evening, this event is aimed at connecting with parents and kicking off ongoing communication throughout the year. We will be covering internet filtering, setting restrictions, parenting strategies and more, as well as providing you with a range of resources to equip you on your digital parenting adventure! Question and answer time to follow. Hope to see you there! Meeting recording and resources will be available to view after the event.

Email: digitalparenting@elim.school.nz

- 3. NCEA Academic Success Evening (online) Wednesday 17th March 7:00 – 8:30pm**
- 4. MIOMO Evening Thursday 25 March 2021 Primarily for parents of Y9-13 students F2F**
This amazing event is our gift to you and is a must for all parents who have teenagers, Y9-13.

More info is on the way but we have wanted to bring this to you for a number of years. 'Making It on My Own (MIOMO) is an absolute treasure and now the programme is led and presented by one of our very own parents Wee Yeong Eyou. One evening out, without your kids (venue to be advised either the being renovated Botany Campus Auditorium or at GC). Per person gold coin donation. Add this to your pack of understanding and skills to enable your teenager to thrive.



Born in Malaysia, Wee-Yeong immigrated to NZ over 25 years ago. Married to Reeta, they have two boys - Elyas (11) and Levi (10).

Wee-Yeong is the Executive Director of MIOMO (Making it on my Own) the 4-day Leadership and Life Skills programme for youth 16+ years of age.

His passion for the next generation in Aotearoa drives him to impart value and skills to set young people up for success in all areas of life; and to equip parents for their role in their young adults' independence process.

Career Background

After completing a conjoint degree at the University of Auckland (majoring in technology and management), Wee-Yeong's 20-year career spanned consulting, risk management, youth mentoring and non-profit leadership.

In 2014, Wee-Yeong narrowed his focus to work solely with the emerging generation of young adults. This led to the purchase of the renowned MIOMO Programme by Every Nation Auckland city, where Wee-Yeong is the Next Generation Pastor. Whilst the programme is founded on Christian principles, it is designed for young people from all backgrounds and faiths.

GCMY Student Leaders 2021

Congratulations to the following students with their appointment as **Y10 Middle Years Leaders 2021**

Toby Scott, Abigail Neumann, Tydus Ah Kuoi, Shalom Kim, Luca Johns, Tabitha Boswell, Keagan Wolsky, Adriana Belloso, Luca Papesch, Chiara Samuel.

Congratulations to the following students with their appointment as **Whānau Sports Leaders 2021**

Mayah Allerby (Ezekiel), Noah Willis (Ezekiel), Nisha Dale (Daniel), Sam Molloy (Daniel), Terina Shaw (Joshua), Ethan Spurdle (Joshua), Brooklyn Williams (Jeremiah), Milla Byrne (Jeremiah)

I leave you with this message from the BC Prefects with BC Campus Lead Mr Brisoce – so good to see and hear this.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uu24e51flcVCTVaiUvdFn2ipBEp3KsS_/view?usp=sharing

Āraia te kino and protect yourself, your whānau and your whakapapa.

Much aroha

Nga mihi

Murray Burton MNZM
PRINCIPAL